



MINUTES OF THE RATE HEARING FOR INDUSTRIES
Held On November 5, 2024

The November 5, 2023, Business Meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m., by President Martin. The meeting was held at the Port of Sunnyside's Business Administration Office located at 2405 Reith Way, Suite 2 Sunnyside, WA.

COMMISSIONERS AND STAFF PRESENT AT THE BUSINESS MEETING:

Arnold Martin, Commission President	Delilah Saenz, Finance Director
Jim Grubenhoff, Commission Vice President	Travis Jansen, Operations Manager
Tyler Schilperoort, Commission Secretary	Nicole Jech, Contract Specialist
Rob Faber, Legal Counsel	Jasmine Chavez, Administrative Assistant

GUESTS: Chad Ferguson - Yakima Chief

Rate Hearing was opened at 10:02 a.m. by President Martin

LEGAL COMMENTS:

Rob provided an overview of the hearing. He explained that the purpose of the hearing will be to review and consider financial data and wastewater treatment cost projections for 2025, and to receive comments and information from current users of the Port's Industrial Wastewater Treatment Facility ("IWWTF") as well as any member of the public. As of meeting time there were no written or oral comments that had been received by Port staff. The Port's obligations with regards to this rate hearing are established by the user contracts with the industries discharging their industrial wastewater to the Port. The Port upgraded the IWWTF user contract several years ago. However, the old industry contract and the new user contract have similar obligations as to this rate hearing, so it does not matter which contract form an industry has signed. Pursuant to the user contracts, before establishing the IWWTF rates, the Port must send written notice to each industry.

1. The notice must be given at least 10 days before the public hearing. Here, the notice was mailed to the industries on October 22, 2024, and the public hearing is on November 5, 2024.
2. The notice must include the date and time of the rate hearing, together with any proposed rate changes. The notice given to the industries included the date, November 5, 2024, and time, 10:00 a.m., of the rate hearing, as well as the proposed rate changes for each respective industry.
3. The Port must provide the industries with historic accounting data and other pertinent information to explain or support the proposed rate changes. The Port provided 5-year historic data via a mailing sent to each Industry on October 15, 2024. This information was also available for any industry that came to the user meeting on October 15, 2024.

Delilah mentioned the draft copies that had been presented in past meetings showed the itemized cost for Industries in BOD. However, the Port is billing using COD, so the spreadsheet has been updated. This is the only change since the user meeting in October.

GUEST COMMENTS:

Chad mentioned that he is new to the wastewater process, but Art has been teaching him. He has been working with DMR's for the last 5 months. The commissioners let him know that he is welcome to call the office anytime with questions.

The public rate hearing was closed at 10:09 a.m. by President Martin.

STAFF COMMENTS: None

ACTION ITEMS:

- Motion to approve Resolution 2024-09, "A Resolution of the Port of Sunnyside, Yakima County Washington Levying the Annual Tax Revenue to Carry on the Operations of the Port of Sunnyside for the Calendar Year ending December 31, 2025". Commissioner Grubenhoff moved to approve; Commissioner Schilperoort seconded. Motion approved 3-0.
- Motion to approve Resolution 2024-10, "A Resolution of the Port of Sunnyside, Yakima County Washington Levying the 2025 Ad Valorem Property Taxes for the Port of Sunnyside for the Calendar Year Ending December 31, 2025". Commissioner Schilperoort moved to approve; Commissioner Grubenhoff seconded. Motion approved 3-0.
- Motion to approve Resolution 2024-11, "A Resolution of the Port Commission of the Port of Sunnyside Setting 2025 Wastewater Rates for the Industrial Wastewater Treatment Facility". Commissioner Grubenhoff moved to approve; Commissioner Schilperoort seconded. Motion approved 3-0.
- Motion to approve Resolution 2024-12, "A Resolution Adopting a Budget for the Calendar Year 2025". Commissioner Schilperoort moved to approve; Commissioner Grubenhoff seconded. Motion approved 3-0

ADJOURNMENT: The Rate Hearing adjourned at 10:15 a.m., peace and harmony prevailing.



Arnold Lee Martin, President

ATTEST: 

Tyler Schilperoort, Secretary